## Outer Court Communications an our lady of enchantment publication

ISSUE 88-2 OUR LADY OF ENCHANTMENT, BOX 1366, NASHUA, NH 03061 # 48 CHURCH OF THE OLD RELIGION, SCHOOL OF WICCA NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

## SUMMER PRIESTHOOD TRAINING PROGRAM

Greetings Students,

With Beltane on the horizon and summer fast approaching now is your last chance to take advantage of our June Priesthood training program. This special, week long intensive, session will include lecture instruction; meditation and channeling techniques; ritual dynamics and group counselling methods. As with all our Priesthood programs this one will conclude with a Sabbat celebration (Summer solstice).

Our cut off date will be June 1st and basically is a first come first serve situation with lodging at the Center. However, there are many fine-reasonable motels very close by for those who may prefer more privacy than our dorm accommodations can supply. Unfortunately we will not be able to offer this unique opportunity again until after Samhain due to the increased work load and PR obligations of Lady Sabrina.

So, if you want to participate in and be part of, a really exceptional training program which will prepare you for the Priesthood then get in touch with us as soon as possible to reserve your space.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE WRITE OR CALL OUR LADY OF ENCHANTMENT, P.O. BOX 1366, NASHUA, NH 03061 (603) 880-7237 NO COLLECT CALLS PLEASE

## THE CHURCH

Just exactly what is a church? Mainly, in the United States, it is an organization operated much in the same way as a corporation. For the purpose of conducting business (religious) and holding property in the name of the church. The earliest churches were the forerunners of our cities and states and were organized as "Territorial Parishes". These later became the colonies, which in turn became the United States. Church organizations were then transformed in to trustee corporations and were governed by a board of trustees. This of course then controlled and held title to all church cont. page 2 property.

OUR LADY OF ENCHANTMENT
RELIGIOUS SERVICES
FRIDAY NIGHT CHURCH: May 6th,
20th. June 3rd, 17th. July
1st, 15th, 29th. August 12th,
26th.

GREAT DAY SABBATS: Summer solstice, Monday, June 20th, 8:00pm.
Lughnasadh, Monday, August 1st, 7:30 pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (603) 880-7237

Today in the United States there are only two types of church organizations remaining.

A. The Corporation Sole: This is the most autocratic form that a church can take. The leadership consists of one person who has total and complete power to run the church in his assigned territory. The Catholic Arch Diocese uses this method and all property is held in trust by the controlling Bishop or the Diocese. The Morman Church, Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints is a Utah Corporation Sole.

B. The Membership[Corporation: This is the most widely used form of a church corporation; also referred to in some States as a Voluntary Corporation. In this instance the corporation is governed by a board of directors which derives its authority from and is elected by the members of the church. The board of directors must follow the bylaws set down by the elders which obtained the original non-profit religious status for the corporation. In this case all property is held in the name of the corporation and is managed by the board of directors.

It is important to realize that with a non-profit corporation such as church, all property purchased with church money is owned by said church, not any of the individuals involved. if for some reason the church or corporation should dissolve all of the property owned by the church must be awarded to another church or non-profit organization. The IRS will see to it that non of the spoil go to the vicars in this case.

But, why all the talk about churches? Are not the Wiccans and Pagans free from such bureaucratic structure? Unfortunately they are, too free, and this is one of the major problems with gaining acceptance and recognition from society. There are very few of us out there with our State and Pederal non-profit corporation status.

Ten years ago it was fairly uncomplicated for non-Christian groups to attain their legal standing. However, with the likes of Jim Jones cults, a rise in Satanism and the greedy Fundamentalists the IRS is a lot more choosy now. So there is now a need for those of us with this precious standing to help those out who need and wish legal recognition of their own.

This is why Our Lady of Enchantment will now be extending a helping hand in the form of Church Charters to other reputable religious organizations. The purpose is two fold; to see more legally recognized alternative religious groups become established, and to insure our more than 6,000 students around the world places to go for fellowship.

If you have already organized a group, have regular meetings and want legal status or need help in starting a group; fill out the form below and mail with \$5.00 for our Church Charter Package.

ddress		Phone
ity	State	Zip
ate group was founded_ rief description of pur		nt membership

#### NOTES ON RITUAL (2389)

Ritual Magic generally stands within a specific tradition, e.g. Quabalistic, Egyptian, Celtic, etc. (for these and others see Delores Ashcroft-Norwicki's "First Steps in Ritual".) Some general principles apply to all.

Fundamental is the concept of the Temple. Sacred space must already exist or be created, a "temenos" for the performance of the operation. The physical and spiritual worlds will interlock as symbolized by the Hexagram. Different rules apply in sanctified space, so apparant miracles may be worked, for the usual limitations are swept aside. Some magicians are hung up on a "permant physical Temple" but this is absolutely unnecessary, merely reinforcing the illusion of security, which a true Shaman must abandon. As Heracleitus said, "Panta rhei" - everything changes or flows.

This sanctification must be reinforced in the minds of the participants - the more preparation involved the better. A group can allot roles and have rehersals, just like a drama club. Fasting, bathing, robing etc. can help. The ritual itself should have many stages, and written scripts will probably be necessary, although some can be improvised.

Plan the intention carefully, and consider how it may best be realised. Make it as precise as possible - spirits are fallible too! Relate it to the apppropriate Sephirah or Sephiroth on the Tree, invoke only these in the ritual. You will be a channel for these forces, so purify yourself and attune your mind with your fellow magicians. Dion Fortune talked of "natural lines of cleavage", meaning not the breasts of Isis, but the "fault lines" between different people, different organizations and places - you can use these to distance yourself from problems but don't take them with you into the Magic Circle.

Check all of your physical props and ensure they are all present and ready for use. Candles, incense (with extra supplies), cup, wine, rod or wand, sword and any additional props must be in place and everybody must know their script. Then secure the outer approaches and let all enter, singly, pay their respects to the altar and pass the guardian to take their places.

Next the temple must be opened and the channels tuned in. Intense concentration by all is essential or this may not work on the psychic level and just feel "mechanical". Invocations are not always answered lightly. Further sanctification may now be appropriate, followed by the statement of intention - the casting of the spell. This is the crux of the operation, the climax, followed by a careful detumescense. It may be wise to offer a sacrifice in exchange, if so it must be carried out.

Banishing in reverse order to the invocations will be followed by closing of the temple. Somewhere here you can write down a summary in the Magical Record and pour libations to Bacchus, in some way emphasising the shared nature of the ritual experience. The guardian will check for lingering forces and expell them if discovered - this is extremely important.

A full scale ritual like this cannot be done "just like that". This is why Magical Training Orders put their pupils through visualization and concentration excersises, chanting training, basic Avibration or teaching on the forces to be invoked and standard ritual formats. Robes and weapons must be individually made and consecrated beforehand. The candidate must be worthy of admittance to the temple. Some people think rituals must include e.g. alcohol, sex, flagellation, prayers, dancing or music. In my view none of these are essential or necessarily desirable. It is up to you what to put in, but you can be sure that what you get out of it will be dependent on the nature and the force of input.



#### THE PURSUIT OF AN IDEAL By Susan Chaney #1680

In New England, the year 1692 brought about an event that was unique in itself. The Salem witch persecutions appeared, later than their fellow injustices in England and in the mildest form. The American settlers were too preoccupied with providing for life's necessities to carry out elaborate witch hunts as was done in Europe. The cruelties also lacked the refinements which were so highly developed on the old continent. The thing that makes this witch trial the most interesting in the history of witch trials is the truly astounding and unique situation of the recantation and public repentance made by the judge and the jury in Massachusetts.

The witch persecutions in Europe became so elaborate that there were books printed on how to recognize witches and sorcerers within the community. There were trained witchfinders who traveled the countryside finding, torturing, and putting to death the witches they supposedly found. The most popular way of finding witches guilty was to stick pins into their bodies; if they did not bleed they were guilty. The distinctions between heresy and witchcraft, religious rebellion, forgein beliefs, and science and magic was never made by the prejudiced judges. Anything that was uncatholic was combated and, usually destroyed. They were in pursuit of an ideal to the point of murdering innocent people. The sad part is that the inquisitions ideal had no foundations other than mass hysteria.

The Salem witch trials never reached this enormous scale. The methods of torture were not as grotesque as those in the old continent. The total number of witches executed is inconsiderable and the executions lacked the pomp that was displayed particularly in the southern countries of Europe. The Salem witches were hanged, according to the former practice of the country, not burned as is generally believed. The fact that the judges and jury made a public recantation of the event proves that their eyes were finally opening. People are different and most have different beliefs and no one person or group of persons has the right to condemn someone for being different.

To have been in that square of Salem in 1692 and heard that document read is what would have been the most interesting time for me. This was the very same square where the witches were executed for being different. To have spoken with Thomas Fisk, Thomas Pearly, or William Fisk and to have understood the guilt they must have felt upon realizing the wrong they had performed would be astonishing. The following statements appear in this document:

"We confess that we ourselves were not capable to understand, nor able to withstand, the mysterious delusions of the powers of darkness... On further consideration and better information, we justly fear that we have been instrumental, with others, though ignorantly and unwittingly, to bring upon ourselves and these people of the Lord, the guilt of innocent blood..."

Their ideal had little purpose when they realized the lives that were wasted. Their repentance and recantation came at a time when they proved to be singularly effective arguments in the hands of the opponants of the witch-dogma in England. For this reason, the declairation is not only a great document of American History but a document that promotes the good of all.

WOODRUFF by Arafel

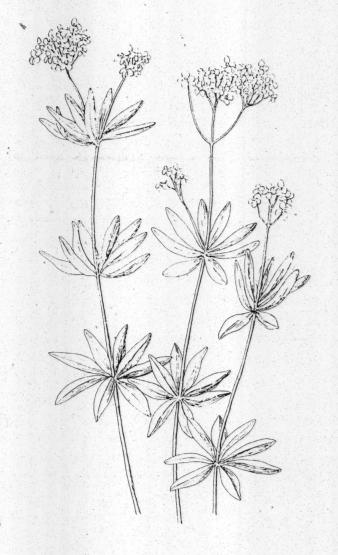
Folk Names: Master of the Woods, Sweet Woodruff.

Woodruff is a hardy perennial plant that grows 6" to 8" tall. Native to the woods and gardens of Europe, Asia and North Africa; it is cultivated in the United states. In the Spring it bears small white star shaped flowers. This herb grows best in shady areas in moist soil mixed with leaf mold. The dried leaves give off a faint vanilla smell and are used for both healing and magical purposes.

Garlands of woodruff, hung in the home can freshen the air. Woodruff is the primary herb of Beltane, Fresh leaves are the main ingredient in the traditional May wine. The vine stalks can be wound to form the crown for the May Queen, who represents the Goddess. Woodruff is also associated with Mars; Teutonic warriors wore it in their helmets to help ensure victory in battle. It can be carried to help promote success and victory in businessendeavors.

MAYBOWLE (May Wine)

1 bottle of white wine (Rhine)
1 TBL sugar
2/3 c water
1pt fresh strawberries
1/2 fresh woodruff leaves



Bruise woodruff leaves by rolling gently between hands. Add to wine and let set in a cool place for several weeks (the longer the better) Several hours before using, heat sugar and water in a small pan. Add to wine and chill. Just before serving add the fresh strawberries.

#### THE ELEMENTS OF YOUR LIFE

Phoenix

To an astrologer your life is a drama set against the back drop of the zodiac. Everyone's horoscope contains each of the signs, enabling us to live out the potential of all of these influences. It is the placement of the planets, the actors in this drama, which decide which signs will affect us the most. An astrologer must have a good understanding of the signs for a proper interpretation.

The zodiac can be divided into two distinct groupings. They are divided by element and by quality. Astrology recognizes four elements to which are ascribed certain characteristics. Each sign is in turn asigned to an element.

Aries, Leo and Sagittarius are **Firey** in nature. These signs are energetic, enthusiastic, impulsive and positive. Often making for a volatile, impatient, yet active personality who is looking toward the future.

Taurus, Virgo and Capricorn are **Earthy** by nature. These signs lend themselves toward practical, cautious and predictable behavior. Earth represents endurance and responsibility.

Gemini, Libra, and Aquarius are Airy in nature. These signs represent thought, communication, knowledge, and logic. They convey wit, dexterity and optimism,

Cancer, Scorpio and Pisces are Watery by nature. These signs are emotional and feeling. Receptivity, fluidity, compassion and love fall under the influence of this element.

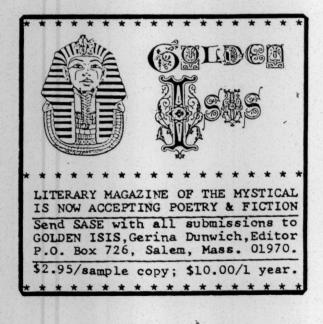
As can be seen, the elements indicate the temperment of the person. The qualities, on the other hand show the mode of action the person uses.

The Cardinal signs of Aries, Cancer, Libra and Capricorn are assertive, initiating new projects and ideas.

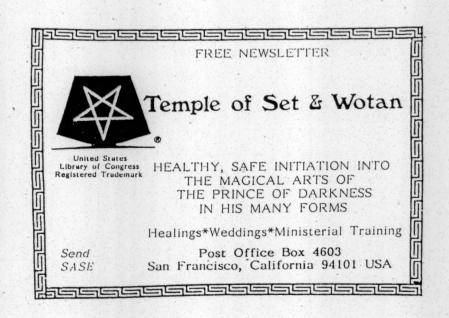
The **Fixed** signs of Taurus, Leo, Scorpio and Aquarius are determined, stubborn and stable in nature.

The Mutable signs of Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius and Pisces are flexible in nature, often vaselating.

By analyzing a sign's element and quality a termendous amount of basic information can be determined. For it is the combination of these two factors which give the signs there basic natures.







#### TAPPING ANCIENT POWERS

by Cassius

There is a vast legacy which has been passed down to us from history. All of the metaphysical beliefs and magical systems of today found their start in the ancient world. The civilizations of Egypt, Babylon, Greece and Rome worshipped the Old Gods, the deities which had been with mankind since the beginning and manifested themselves in nature.

Mortal humans were able to learn the secrets of the Gods and gain such greatness that they are remembered still. Magick was a vital force in this age, and the powers from these times are still sought after.

Ancient beliefs and mysteries which most had thought to be lost and destroyed have been revived, because interest in the Age of Magick has ever continued. How could it not? Even though the world has advanced far beyond all that the ancients knew in everyday life; there is that spirit of early knowledge of the Gods which has been lost.

Not all of the secrets of the ancient world have been recovered. Today, there is an untapped sourse of magic that can still be reclaimed. Along with religious and philosophical beliefs a great many actual artifacts from Antiquity have survived.

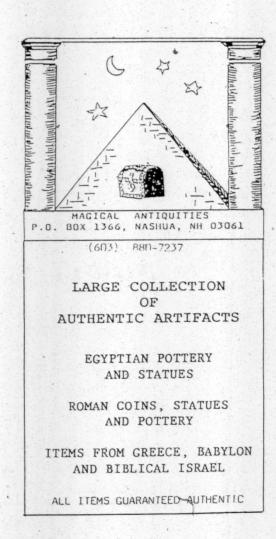
Vibrations of energy cling to material objects. These dissapate over time but do not vanish completely. It is for this reason that materials from the ancient world are of such importance now.

It is possible still for those with magical awareness to make use of ancient objects. Such things as Magical amulets from Egypt, consecrated God and Goddess statues from Rome and Greece, and seals of Power from mighty Babylon may be put to use; and the powers of the priests of ancient Gods may be combined with ones own energies to perform magic. Non religious artifacts are often used gateways, to help transport consciousness back through the millenia as in astral travel. This gives those who are adept an access to wonders and secrets which have been long forgotten.

Ancient artifacts are even now an available item which all may own. For a reasonable sum one may purchase antiquities which can be used in magic, to trigger the

imagination and to tap into the thoughtform energies of the ancient world. A person with an affinity (perhaps through a past life) for Egypt, could utilize a commonly available magical servant figure along with the Egyptian Book of the Dead in their personal magic to great effect. Items with a history of thousands of years also provide a powerful object of focus in meditation and psychometry.

The untapped resource of ancient artifacts awaits those who feel the call to blend the powers of the ancient world with the technologies of the present. Not only do the ancient beliefs have their place in this the surviving works of but age, predecessors also may be used as a part of todays spiritual and magical revival. For more information on ancient artifacts and magical objects, write to the adress given in the display below.



### **CRAFT PUBLICATIONS**

CIRCLE NETWORK NEWS: Quarterly newspaper, Wiccan/Pagan articles and news. \$3/sample, \$9/year. Circle, PO Box 219, Mt. Horeb, W1 53572

COUNCIL OF THE MAGICKAL ARTS: Quarterly journal, Wiccan/Pagan related. \$7/year. Council of the Magickal Arts, 5920 Bissonet 114, Houston, TX 77081

HARVEST: Published at Sabbats; Neo-Pagan journal, Wiccan/Pagan articles, news, and networking. \$2/sample, \$10/yearly. Harvest, PO Box 228, S. Framingham, MA 01701

MAGICKAL UNICORN MESSENGER: Quarterly publication of the Temple of Wicca. Articles, poems, festival news. \$7/yearly. Temple of Wicca, PO Box 1302, Findlay, OH 45839

OF A LIKE MIND: Quarterly newspaper, published by and for women; also networking membership. \$2.50/sample, \$10/yearly. Of A Like Mind, PO Box 6201, Madison, WI 53716

PAGANA: Sabbats, Pagan/Wiccan/Occult, a special interest group of Mensa. \$2/sample, \$12/year (6 issues). Zephyr Starwater, PO Box 9494, San Jose, CA 95157

PAGAN PARENTS LEAGUE NEWSLETTER: For Pagan parents. PO Box 423-P, Bay Shore, NU 11706

PAGAN UNITY NEWS: Quarterly networking publication for the Wiccan/Pagan community. \$2/sample, \$7/yearly. Northern Wag, Inc., 6030 W. Roosevelt Rd., Oak Park, IL 60304

PANEGYRIA: The newsletter of the Aquarian Tabernacle Church, \$8/yearly. PO Box 85507, Seattle, WA 98145

SEASONAL SILVER: Nature/Humanitarian quarterly newsletter. \$2/sample, \$8/yearly. PO Box 189, Alpharetta, GA 30201

THUNDERBOW: Monthly newsletter with a good individual viewpoint. \$6/yearly. Church of the Seven Arrows, 4385 Hoyt St. - #201, Wheatridge, CO 80033

THE UNICORN: Published at Sabbats, newsletter format. \$10/yearly. The Rowan Tree, Box 8814, Minneapolis, MN 55408 (Also the location of The Rowan Tree Herb Shop)

THE UPPER TRIAD: A journal of metaphysical, theosophical, and esoteric philosophy. Free/monthly. The Upper Triad, PO Box 1370, Manassas, VA 22110-1370

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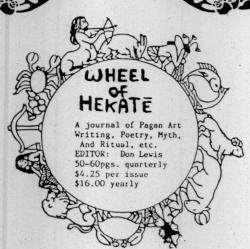
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Outer Court Communications is a bi-monthly publication of Our Lady Of Enchantment and is received by over 5,000 students around the world. Staff Members: Heather Wise, Cassius, Arafel, Phoenix. Subscription rate \$12.00 a year US and \$16.00 foreign.

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## The Ritual, Ceremony And Magic Of Ancient Egypt

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#### Why Are There Secret Mysteries?

In Wicca, we are introduced to the natural mysteries - birth, growth, death, rebirth; night and darkness, God and Goddess. At one time, the men and women who held this knowledge were the scientists and leaders of their communities: they were the "technicians of the sacred." The cycles of Nature, the uses of herb, the healing charms, and the voices of the gods and the goddesses - these were crucial to the running of life, and it was rare knowledge. Nowadays, we live in a divided existance, between the natural world and the world of our own making. In Wicca, we gain an awareness of the elements of this world and the next, and discover our true relationship to them. While this knowledge isn't always as crucial to our survival as it once was, it still enriches our lives beyond measure. The mysteries of Life and Death are eternal, and while they seem to change, they never leave us. Still, how do we respond to them in their new forms?

#### Sorcery: High-Tech Witchcraft

Magick is the specialized training in the use of the forces behind the elements. Where Wicca employs the magick of natural forces, sorcery distills these elements into pure essences. These essences may occasionally differ, depending on the particular magickal tradition, but at the core of the teachings they deal with the same forces.

There is an intensity of focused purpose in magick that is sharper than the natural magick of Wicca, and so its practical aspects are also more emphasized. An interesting aspect of magickal systems is how they each have their own very definite cultural flavor. The nature religion of Wicca has a universal appeal; after all, despite differences in location and climate, Nature has similar cycles everywhere. Each culture, however, has a unique viewpoint, and we all have our roots in one or two specific cultures. Rather than being a trap, the magick of our cultures can be a springboard to launch us into new areas of peace, power and purpose. Like the computer, magick can be a general-purpose tool for increasing our knowledge and effectiveness, here and now.

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# Spring brings Summer, growth and change to Our Lady Of Enchantment.

It started with the Harmonics Convergence last August, when the first rumblings of the New Age began to be felt. The entire world took notice of an ideal; a change of consciousness and the influence of Aquarius took over. Though subtle in its impact, it nevertheless has made an impression. The time is here; the time is now and those with inner sight can see what the future holds. This is why, we at Our Lady Of Enchantment, have decided to move forward into the light. We are not alone, there are many who think, feel and believe as we do. Those who embrace our ideals; seek spiritual enlightenment and realize what the New Age has to offer will delight in our transformation. Dark shadows east by conditioned fears; the secret agenda of an ignorant mentality and regression into escapism are only for the rebellious mind. Having come full cycle we invite you to:

## come see our new look

EMBRACE THE LIGHT,

AND JOIN WITH US IN OUR SEARCH FOR HIGHER SPIRITUAL TRUTH.

Welcome

## INNER QUEST BOOKS

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Inner Quest Books is located at the 43 Amherst St. level where our large metaphysical library used to be. Our library is now located on the second floor of the building. Where Dragons Hoard used to be is now our Greely St. entrance. Please bear with us as Hanover Hill resides the building. Our new look will be great. With fresh paint and new carpet, we request no shoes in the upstairs common room please.

#### WAIT THERE IS MORE TO COME!

celebrate our Grand Opening and welcome our first sister congregation ROSCBATC

to Our Lady Of Enchantment at our Summer Solstice celebration Saturday, June 18th More information on this and other activities will be given at this FRIDAY NIGHT CHURCH.

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An International Religious And Educational, Non-Profit Organization

#### The Church

Lughnasadh and Autumn Equinox bring harvest and reward. This has certainly been true this year at Our lady Of Enchantment. We have much to be thankful for and more to look forward to in the months to come. We especially want to welcome Rosegate, Our Lady Of The Roses, to our organization as a sister congregation.

In the past we have had many New Age, Pagan and alternative religious groups ask us about how they can become legally recognized churches. Most feel they want to have this legal standing for the protection it offers, along with the statement it makes regarding their belief system. For the most part this is very good as it brings unity, organization and structure which creates boundaries and guidelines for operational behavior. Something which is sorely needed by those wishing to be recognized as viable ministers of their chosen faith. This is why we have begun to charter other organizations.

For centuries the Christian church has set the standard for, what it considered, proper spiritual conduct. Good, bad or indifferent matters not to the individual who cannot relate to its doctrine. For some it still holds the key to fulfillment and this should be respected. However, others find it to confining, lacking in balance and individual expression. Another point of view, but just as valid. Like beauty, religious relevance is in the eye of the beholder. No matter how hard any of us try to convert the next guy, ultimately he will believe what fits his need whether he speaks his mind or not.

The important factor to be considered when seeking a charter obviously is the parent organization. Not only will they be speaking, indirectly, for you, but dictating the majority of legal moves necessary to keep things operating correctly. On the other hand, the group wishing a charter must also become

aware of their responsibilities. This is especially true when it comes to religious associations. What the group does; how they present themselves and their actions all reflect back upon the Mother Church and all other affiliated congregations.

There is nothing wrong with belonging to, or being part of, a larger organization as long as there is a certain amount of continuity and common direction among the collective leaders. In fact the majority of the time larger groups function and produce more than their smaller constituents. The support factor alone becomes a predominate motivation for most. Then there is theelement of influence to consider. Large organizations will always exert more leverage when it comes to authority than the individual does. This of course is what should be considered by small, independent religious orders. Do they wish to be heard and considered when it comes to important issues? Do they want to make a difference or just remain inconspicuous?

Of course when all is said and done what any group does or accomplishes depends upon the combined energy of the individuals involved. There should always be room for each person to, in some way, express their feelings and ideas. These will not always be acted upon, but should be taken into consideration by those in key positions. This is one of the reasons we, here at Our Lady Of Enchantment, have an Outer Court. To listen to; take into consideration and work with other opinions than just our own. From doing this we gain insight; expand our horizons and progress. When we, as a whole, realize a new potential each member of the group benefits.

There are other non-profit, religious associations who have the ability to charter besides ourselves. If you have a circle of friends, who meet on a regular basis and feel you would like to either expand your group or contribute on a larger scale, you should consider a

charter. For those of alternative faiths this is about the only way you really have of getting involved and making a difference in the scheme of things.

This is one of the key themes of the New Age, group consciousness. Raising the level of awareness; lifting ourselves above individual need for the good of the whole. The time has come for minority religions to get together and work for a common goal; acceptance and equal rights. Common sense and history should tell us that "United WE Stand, Divided WE Fall." Though we may not fall we surely will never realize our full potential without unification.

If you are a student of Our Lady Of Enchantment, get involved, send for our contact list. Write to the publications listed in this newsletter for their organizations information. If you have a group look into getting a Charter either from us or others involved in your religious community. Our church charter package in \$5.00 and this covers printing and postage. Please write: Our Lady Of Enchantment, Church Package, Box 1366, Nashua, NH 03061 or call (603) 880-7237 after 3:00 pm; no collect calls

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September 2nd, 16th & 30th - 7:30

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#### **AUTUMN EQUINOX**

Ritual For Blessing The Corn Baba

The Autumn Equinox, known as Mabon, is a time of equality when the forces of nature seek balance. This is the "Harvest Home" celebration and basically culminates the agricultural work for the year.

This ritual is for the blessing of the Corn Baba which is a representation of the harvest and what we wish to come about during the ensuing winter months.

The Corn Baba should be made of corn husks and all natural materials. Size should be determined according to use and placement.

#### THE RITUAL

First, prepare your altar in the usual manner. You will want to use orange candles and place your Corn Baba in the center of the altar along with signs of the season. Red spiced wine and cakes should be available for offering.

#### CELEBRANT Says:

For now do I bid farewell to the seasons of green. As the crane flies South so the winter begins. Now as I look to the heavens am I thankful for the fruits of my labors and the loving nourishment provided by the Lord and Lady.

Celebrant lights orange altar candles and then offers the Corn Baba to each Quadrant saying:

Blessed be the fruits of my labor

Blessed is the harvest

Blessed be the Lord and Lady

So Mote It Bel \*\*

Celebrant now passes the Corn Baba through each of the elements saying:

For I have grown in grace with the eternal spirit. From the elements of nature come inspiration and awareness to make manifest my will according to divine providence. So Shall It Be! \*\*

Replace the Corn Baba on the altar and bless the cakes and wine by holding both up and saying:

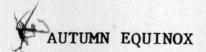
May emptiness be filled, silence hear the word and darkness be enlightened. My highest harvest hopes are to grow beyond necessity and exist in fuller freedom. By the powers of the infinite forces, all that has meaning is brought forth through the mind of the soul. \*\*

Drink the wine and eat the cakes in celebration to the Lord and Lady.

\*\*Before each affirmation concentrate intently upon the Corn Baba, filling it with your desire. The Corn Baba will be the focal point of the Autumn Equinox ceremony.

Sabrina





The Autumn Equinox is a time of equality; a time of balance when we seek harmony between the masculine and feminine aspects of nature. This is a time of celebration known as the Harvest Home. Autumn Equinox is a time of transition and we can clearly see the dynamics of the relationship between the Sun and Earth reach their culmination. For this ritual you will need your usual altar items; seasonal incense, harvest decorations and orange candles. All members should meet one hour prior to sunset at the ritual site.

#### AUTUMN EQUINOX RITUAL

#### Celebrant:

Consecrates the elements, casts the circle and calls upon the Guardians of the four Quadrants.

#### Celebrant:

Comes before the Altar and lights the orange candles and says the following:

O Great and Timeless Goddess, now do we give thanks for this season of plenty. For as life has come full cycle we meet and celebrate in commemoration of all we have received; so as to fulfill the promise of that which is to come. So Be it!

Four members of the group are chosen and will each go to their prospective Quadrants and say the following in order:

#### Kast:

Equal day and equal night golden leaves, icy winds and drying sun shadows cast from a soaring eagle brings forth the spirit of the harvest.

#### South:

Flaming Autumn fires the potency of a once great king fill our hearts with vitality and passion bringing us the power of the harvest.

#### West:

Ritter cold seas reflecting gray winter skies who art the twilight, the Autumn, the emotion brings us the wisdom of the harvest.

#### North:

Bleak and barren land upon which the mighty oak sheds it scarlet coat provider of seed and grain, the sustainer brings forth the promise of the harvest.



Celebrant:

Now is the time of equal light and equal night.

Now is the time for thanksgiving.

Now is the time for inner cultivation.

Now is the time for the Corn king, the Red lion of the South

our life giver and death bringer.

Now is the time for the Maiden, Mother and Crone, our Lady of abundance to grant her blessings upon all who gather in her sight.

#### All Members:

Ayea, Ayea, Cerridwen

Ayea, Ayea, Cerridwen

Ayea, Ayea, Cerridwen

Ayea, Ayea, Ayea

Ayea, Ayea, Cernunnos

Ayea, Ayea, Cernunnos

Ayea, Ayea, Cernunnos

Ayea, Ayea, Ayea



All Members will now take hands and chant the following to raise the power in celebration of the harvest.

#### BLESSED BE THE HARVEST

#### Celebrant:

Will now bless the cakes and wine as follows and all will partake of them in Perfect Love and Perfect Trust.

Wine: Blessed is the great ocean Mother and her soundless, boundless, bitter sea. For as this sacred fluid contains life, so life should contain love and all should be tempered with wisdom. So Be It.

Cakes: May emptiness be filled, silence hear the word and darkness be enlightened. May all grow and prosper beyond their highest harvest hopes. So Be It.

All members now take some time to share their insights and ideas about the harvest. When the time is right the Celebrant will dismiss the Guardians and banish the circle and all will proceed to the feast.

# TAROT AND THE QUABALAH THE QUABALAH

The word Quabalah means a tradition or that which is received. It also refers to a very specific system of metaphysics. But in the old times the Quabalah had a more general meaning, that of "The Law".

There are two different types or separate schools of the Quabalah; that of Judaism and that which is a product of the Italian Renaissance, known as Hermetic Quabalah.

Mosaic law forbids the showing of any human figures, this included paintings or any other type of symbolic representation. This is why their systems involved or were created around geometric symbols. Here is where we find the first and most major difference between the two systems. The Judaic system is totally made up of geometric and mathematical symbols, while the Hermetic system involves pictorial figures and symbols.

There are of course many more differences, such as the way that the Divine names are applied, but here we find reason for historical study and development rather than interpretation of the actual system itself.

One of the most, if not the most, important works concerning the Quabalah was "The Book of Formation", known as the "Sepher Yetzirah". Here we find the very essence of the Quabalah in but six brief chapters dating from somewhere between the third and sixth centuries A.D. This work describes the creation of the Universe in terms of letters of the Hebrew alphabet and in terms of symbolic numbers related to neo-Pythagoreanism.

The "Sepher Yetzirah" set the stages so to speak for the forthcoming work "Zohar" by Moses DeLeon. Here we find a series of commentaries on the Bible and Mystical Cosmology.

#### QUABALAH AND THE TAROT:

The Quabalah traditionally is a system that divides the universe into specific categories, allowing for established correspondences between spiritual concepts and actual material manifestation of incurred events within the cycle of all cults and religions. This is seen on an individual level as well as within a collective conscious level of development.

Here we find that the Tarot will also give the same specific correspondences while making statements in a symbolic form as to the events incurred.

We find that both the Tarot and the Quabalah try to enlighten to the fact that we see there is order in the universe and there is no such thing as an accident. At this point it would be a good idea to review the "Kaballion" which teaches or explains the Hermetic Principles which in essence tell us of the structure of the universe and the guiding principles behind it

SUGGESTED READING: "The Kaballah Unveiled"

#### MAGICAL COMMON SENSE

By Cassius

Alright everyone! We are going to have a short quiz! First, see if you can name three people who have gained a great amount of success; really "made it" in life, solely through the practice of magic? Having trouble? See if you can name one!

Most people have the idea that once they know how to perform spells and rituals, the hard part is over and they will never have to work again. After all, won't a prosperity ritual bring money? Why work? A love spell will bring you a mate, right? Why bother fixing yourself up and losing some weight to attract someone?

People who think that metaphysics and magic are the worlds biggest shortcut to Easy-street are fooling themselves. There are a great many "Magical People" out there who claim to be just about everything: magicians, priests, priestesses, initiates (self initiated of course), shamans, wizards, adepts, etc. etc. Most of these people have little money, poor living conditions, are in poor health, and obviously spend the majority of their time in La-La Land!

A person can claim to be the most magically wonderful anything, but if all that good talk can't seem to manifest itself on the physical plane, there is something wrong! (Anyone out there ever see a four hundred pound priestess teaching the "Right Path" and "Representing the Goddess"? Oh please. Really.)

Magic, like anything else, takes work. To answer my first question, yes, there are people who have used magic to gain everything they have wanted and needed. However, all works of magic must be followed up in the material world. If someone on public relief should do a work for money, it couldn't hurt

to go look for a job as well. Want to attract Miss (or Mr.) America? Sitting on the couch watching T.V. for five hours every night isn't going to do it for you. Joining a health club to stay fit and having something interesting to say does.

There are some very simple and yet effective things that you can to succeed in the physical world, that will put you into a situation where magic can be used as a tool to really, honestly help you. First, set definite goals as to what you want. If you choose well and really want to achieve them, they will become burning desires that will help push you to succeed both in the material and magical realms. Secondly, set a reasonable and workable plan as to how you are going to work for and earn your desires. This should include both everyday mundane efforts and works of magic, (heavy on the mundane efforts, please).

Lastly, do not let temporary defeat throw you off from your desires. (most real success comes after a big defeat) and try to keep your mind on positive things and outcomes, rather than manifesting what you don't want through worry. Remember! We are creatures that live both in the physical and spiritual world. Fail in one and you have failed in both.



#### TIDES OF SUCCESS: ASTROLOGY IN MAGIC

Phoenix

For the magician astrology is one of the most versatile tools available. Whether it be the timing of ceremonies or the consecrating of talismans, astrology literally touches on every aspect of magic. Traditionally there are three different ways in which astrology has been used magically.

The first of these would be as a form of divination. This is especially useful for gaining insight into a situation or particular individual. Suppose you were interested in gaining a promotion and a final decision rested with one person. Taking a look at this person astrologically would help you to find out what appeals to them most. From there you could design an entire ritual around selling yourself on this point.

There is an old saying, "timing is everything". especially true in the practice of magic. The timing of any ritual is of vital importance, and again astrology is the determining factor here. Because the Moon represents the intuitive, creative, psychics self, it is the primary factor to consider. Not only should one observe the rules ascribed to the phases of the Moon, you should also consider her position within the zodiac. When the Moon is passing through the Air signs rituals that enhance communication or mental activity should be performed. The Fire signs accent rituals which are designed to bring results fast, these accent friendships as well. When the Moon passes through Water, rituals which tap the subconcious and psychic self are strongest. When the Moon transits the Earth signs rituals which put one in touch with the astral plane are This would also be an excellent time to work best performed. toward acquiring anything of a lasting, material nature.

Other astrological phenomenon which can be very useful are the eclipses of both the Sun and Moon. When these occur there is a burst of energy which you can take advantage of. Follow the general rules outlined above concerning the placement of the Moon, realizing that this influence is enhanced considerably.

It is also possible to draw upon individual planetary forces to bring about desired results. This is done through the use of symbols, colors, scents, etc. which correspond to the planet. To go into detail on this would take more space then is allowed here. This will be the subject of a future article.



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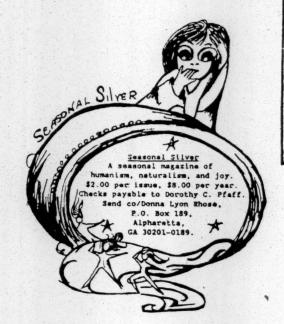
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